

The Carswell Field **FLYER**

NOV/DEC | 2008

Texas Air National Guard | Fort Worth, Texas



Cover design By: Technical Sergeant Charles Hatton



Commander's Comments

Ho! Ho! Ho!

Happy Holidays!

Welcome to November UTA! This drill we will be hosting our annual holiday children's party starting at 12:30 p.m., Sunday in the Fuel Cell Hangar. Special thanks go out to Heidi Bearden and the Family Readiness Group for once again organizing this terrific event. Santa will arrive via C-130 during the party and will sit for the children soon thereafter. Let your families know now and don't miss this party!

In November, we celebrated Veteran's Day. In Keller, Brigadier General Harvel spoke to about 350 folks. His message was very well received as he acknowledged the many lasting sacrifices made by veterans during this century. The Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex area is home to nearly 100,000 vets – including you. In case you haven't heard it yet: THANK YOU.

Regarding drill, we are starting early this month (at 0630) and releasing one hour early. This is to minimize traffic congestion at the entry gates as other units will be drilling this weekend too. Plan accordingly and be on time so we can start on time.

Your command staff and I have decided to make December UTA voluntary. Some unit commanders might still have a mission need to

drill during December, but we want the majority of our folks to have the option of freeing up that one weekend during the holidays. With your commander's permission, make up December drill to accomplish the mission, as needed. This is the season to spend with friends and family, to thank them for their sacrifices and support of you. You all have given so much of yourselves to the service of our State and Nation this last year that I cannot begin to thank you sufficiently. Over 700 were activated for hurricane relief operations and over 600 were mobilized for OEF and OIF. Wow!



While we celebrate and relax this year, please keep in mind those deployed far from home under the most trying of circumstances. Think of those that have sacrificed so much so that we can enjoy so much. Keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

May you all have a safe, healthy, peaceful and happy holiday season! ●

The Carswell Field **FLYER** TEAM

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The "CARSWELL FIELD FLYER" is a bi-monthly, electronic publication provided by the 136th Airlift Wing to assist members in the preparation for the UTA and dissemination of pertinent information and news. Articles may be submitted for inclusion in the "FLYER" by e-mailing them to PA.136AW@txcars.ang.af.mil (Please use "Flyer" as the first word in the subject of the e-mail). You may also contact Lt. Col Greg Perry at (817) 852-3203 or Lt. Lisa Poppe at extension 3305. The Commander makes final decisions for inclusion of submitted material. The information contained in this publication is not Official Policy of the Texas Air National Guard, the National Guard Bureau or the United States Air Force.

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136th Airlift
Ft. Worth, TX Wing

Santa's coming to town!

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Schofield

Photos by Technical Sgt. Charles Hatton



Dr. Shelton from the Air Power Council of Fort Worth, Texas plays as Santa Clause every year for the children of the 136th Airlift Wing members during their annual Holiday Party.

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Santa Clause will be making his annual visit to the good boys and girls of the 136th Airlift Wing and their families during the annual children's holiday party scheduled for Sunday, November 16 at 12:30 p.m. at the Fuel Cell Hanger.

Members are encouraged to bring their children and families and take advantage of the available bounce houses, the obstacle course, craft booths and karaoke microphone, said Heidi Bearden, family program coordinator, 136 AW.

Santa will kick off the celebration by arriving at 1:00 p.m. via C-130 and will be bringing with him a gift for each child. He will also be available to take pictures with the children, continued Bearden.

For the less Clause enthused among the Wing, there will be several organizations attending the festivities and providing information on the services they provide, including TriCare, USAA, VFW, the Ladies Auxiliary and the Vet Center.

The Family Readiness Group will also have a table with Wing items available for purchase, concluded Bearden.

For additional information regarding this event, contact Heidi Bearden, at 817-852-3558. ●



Ho! Ho! Ho!



**136th Airlift
Ft. Worth, TX Wing**



Hero in our midst

531st Band member rescues motorist

By Staff Sgt. Ivyann N. Caraballo
Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Elizabeth Gilbert

Fort Worth, Texas -- A traditional guardsman doesn't have a "normal life," as most will admit. He or she works their civilian job all week, finds time to cook dinner then coach a kid's soccer team. In addition there are preparations for a monthly drill only to find out the day before drill weekend that there is an activation for a six-month deployment overseas.

As Maj. Gen. Dehnert, Texas Air National Guard Adjutant General Commander stated exactly during his visit to the 136th Airlift Wing back in September, "It is a tough job to balance military career, civilian career, family, church and community."

That was the case for Technical Sgt. Shonda L. Winkler, vocalist and French horn player, 531st Air National Guard Band. Sergeant Winkler was one of the 136 AW band members

asked to sing the National Anthem at a Grapevine H.S. pre-football game on September 12, 2008, to promote Air National Guard recruiting.

That night after she sang the National Anthem, she had to rush home and prepare for Hurricane Ike Relief duties early the next morning. "It was a long day," Sergeant Winkler recalls. "I was activated that morning, taught all day, then after school drive to Grapevine to sing at the game and afterwards go home and pack."

However, going home to pack had to wait. Just minutes after leaving the game she saw a vehicle speeding by recklessly clipping a convertible that was a few feet away from her. "After it was hit the convertible careened across three lanes hitting another vehicle, then it hit the median, spun a couple of times until and finally stopped," stated Sergeant Winkler.

It wasn't just the shock of watching a major accident but the fact that the convertible began to light up in flames with the driver still trapped in the vehicle. Sergeant Winkler parked a few feet away from the convertible and rushed to try and get the victim out of the vehicle while simultaneously calling 9-1-1 to tell the operator about the accident.

The driver of the third vehicle hit by the projectile convertible was an off-duty fire fighter. He pulled over to assist Sergeant Winkler in taking the victim out of the vehicle. Just moments after saving her from the burning car, it was engulfed in flames. "It was literally covered by fire and I couldn't believe it. I was so grateful we were able to take her out of the car in time," said Sergeant Winkler.

What was going through the vocalist's mind when she saw the accident? Some would probably feel heroic or



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others might be scared. But Sergeant Winkler knew instinctively and through military training that she would have to help the victim. "I was shocked at first and for one second couldn't believe what happened but when I saw her car light up, I knew I needed to get her out of that vehicle," said Sergeant Winkler.

Once emergency vehicles arrived on scene, Winkler stayed to make a statement. But aside from making a statement, she also called the injured girl's family to inform them about the accident and let them know what hospital she would be going to. "I think that's an important thing people should think of during these situations," Sergeant Winkler added. However her day wasn't over. "I stayed to give my statement to police but I still had to go home and prepare for Hurricane Relief duties



the next morning."

No one really knew about the accident, except by word-of-mouth, and that is what makes Technical Sergeant Shonda Winkler a silent hero. In her civilian job she is a music school teacher for Wells Elementary in Plano. She is an outstanding individual with a friendly personality. She has the ability to be a grade school music teacher by day, a singer and instru-

ment player in the ANG band; she was activated at a moment's notice, and still had the frame of mind to save someone's life in an emergency.

"What she did was amazing considering that she was experiencing stressful hurricane relief activation."; She is truly an un-heard hero," said Lt Col. Trevor Noel, deputy commander, 136 Mission Support Group proudly. ●

NOTABLE

"True heroism consists in being superior to the ills of life, in whatever shape they may challenge us to combat."

-- Napoleon

Hometown Hero



NAME: Technical Sgt. Craig Lifton
UNIT: 136TH Airlift Wing, Public Affairs-Multimedia
TITLE: Broadcaster
DEPLOYED STATION: Joint Base Balad, Iraq
UNIT ASSIGNED TO: 332ND Air Expeditionary Wing

Technical Sgt Craig Lifton volunteered for an overseas deployment on September 24, 2008 for approximately six months. He is assigned to the 332nd AEW as a systems video technician but actually has been a published journalist, writing news articles. Since his deployment his stories have been published on USA.com, Air Force News and CrossFit.com to name a few. Sergeant Lifton came to the 136 AW from the 107th Fighter Squadron, Michigan Air National Guard back in 2006. In his civilian job he is a police officer at Fort Hood. He lives in Killeen with his wife Jennifer and two kids. His wife is also a hero for tackling the homefront by herself, while Sgt. Lifton is away. We are glad to have him as part of our team! Way to go Lifton, you're a hidden journalist!! ●



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Welcome Home Heroes

254 CCG Celebrates Homecoming

By 1st Lt. LaDonna Singleton

Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Elizabeth Gilbert

GARLAND, Texas (Oct. 31, 2008) Airmen from the 254th Combat Communications Group and the 221st Combat Communications Squadron, Garland Air National Guard Station, Texas returned home from their deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan, and the U.S./Mexico border and were greeted with a warm welcome home ceremony Oct. 4 at the Bill Bates Cowboy Ranch in Celina, Texas.

The troops were able to celebrate with their families during the combined Welcome Home and Family Day festivity that was attended by more than 450 people consisting of troops, family members, and community, military and civic leaders to the resounding theme of "Celebrate 2008."

The ceremony was officiated and opened by the 254 CCG commander, Col. Will Allen with inspiring remarks and then followed by remarks and special presentations by Texas Air National Guard military leaders and local civic leaders. Such leaders were Brig. Gen. Don Harvel, Vice Commander Texas Air National Guard, Col. James Brown, Vice Commander, Texas Army National Guard, and the Honorable Ronald Jones, mayor of Garland, and Mr. Paul Meyer, president of the Garland Chamber of Commerce, who all gave motivational acknowledgements to the troops.

Bill Bates, former Dallas Cowboy defensive back (1983-1997) really got the crowd going with his words of thanks to the troops and their families. He also met and greeted numerous troops and their families during the event.

To also honor these deployed Airmen, Master Sgt. Erica Stevens, a vocalist from the Air National Guard Band of the Gulf Coast, performed a stirring National Anthem and other patriotic songs during the presentation of the Texas State Flag and commander's coin by Brig. Gen. Harvel and Col. Allen.

The Mayor of the city in addition, presented certificates to Area of Operation, AOR respective leaders.

"I thought the welcome home/family day event was awesome and the largest that I've seen to date," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Young, commander 221 CBCS. "The guest speakers including the Mayor of Garland and the President of the Garland Chamber of Commerce were unexpected and outstanding. I was especially happy to see large number of families attending."

After the welcome home event, honorees along with other station military members and their families enjoyed hayrides, a petting farm, crafts, hole-in-one contest, two-legged races, visit to the Big Orange Pumpkin Farm, catch and release fishing with live bait, horse shoes, volleyball, face-painting and numerous other activities.

"The Garland unit always impresses me. The people are so knowledgeable in the communications field. It is amazing what they do during deployments," said Brig. Gen. Harvel smiling proudly. "I would not have missed this Welcome Home/Family Day event for the world. When I knew they returned, I made sure I was here. I am so proud of them." ●



**136th Airlift
Ft. Worth, TX Wing**

North Texas Veteran's Day Celebration

Remembering our Heroes

By Lt Col. Suzanne Lipcaman

Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Elizabeth Gilbert



Keller, Texas (Nov 12, 2008) --It was a beautiful and sunny north Texas fall day on Sunday, Nov. 9 as 350 residents of Keller and surrounding communities joined Texas Air National Guard members at the Christian Life Center on Pecan Street to honor U.S. Veterans.

Texas Air National Guard Vice Commander, Brig Gen. Donald H. Harvel addressed the crowd that had assembled. He spoke of sacrifice and honor. He remembered one particular hero, Private William J. Crawford, USA, 36th Infantry Division, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for acts of heroism during World War II. He spoke of the surprise that a group of Air Force Academy cadets had when they realized that their janitor was Private Crawford, a Medal of Honor recipient and reminded us, "Don't label people. You never know when you meet a hero."

Members of the 181st Airlift Squadron performed a C-

130 flyover that was a huge crowd pleaser. The aircrew included, Maj. Michael Pullin, Pilot in Command, 1Lt Jason Marrs, Co-pilot, Maj. Gerald Smalley, Navigator, Staff Sgt. Kenneth Harrison, Load Master and Staff Sgt. Kyle Austin, Flight Engineer. The brass quintet of the 531st Air Force Band of the Gulf Coast performed for the crowd and Tech. Sgt. Shanda Winkler sang a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem, a cappella. Colors were posted by the 301st Honor Guard team, who also performed a precision rifle drill for the event.

This was the first annual North Texas Veteran's Day celebration, co-hosted by Dr. John King, Senior Pastor of the Christian Life Center, and Col David McMinn, Commander, 136th Airlift Wing. Following the formal ceremonies, there were bounce houses, a car show and kick boxing demonstrations. 136th Airlift Wing Recruiter, Tech Sgt. Tiffany Jackson, was there with the ANG Basketball goal that was a big hit with the children and Sgt. Chipotle Mexican Grill Restaurant donated 500 burritos for lunch. The scene was one of fellowship and celebration. As he closed the days festivities, Dr. King thanked all of the CLC members and military members who made the day a huge success, "We look forward to seeing you all again next year." ●



136th Airlift
Ft. Worth, TX Wing

Hero visits 136th Airlift Wing

By 1st Lt. Lisa Poppe

Photos by Master Sgt. Michael Lachman



Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth (13 Nov, 2008) -- US Army 1st Sgt. David H. McNerney, one of 99 living recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor, was Col McMinn's distinguished guest of honor during an Operations ceremony held on Saturday, October 25, 2008 in the 136th Airlift Wing aircrew auditorium.

In the past, commanders have presented aircrew with a plaque depicting Medal of Honor heroes from World War II and Iraqi Freedom. This was the first time the recipient was honored in person.

Col. McMinn took his place near the stage while military members flooded into the auditorium and Capt. Markus Gonser read 1st Sgt. McNerney's citation.

1st Sgt. McNerney distinguished himself when his unit was attacked by a North Vietnamese battalion near Polei Doc. Running through the hail of enemy fire to the area of heaviest contact, he was assisting in the development of a defensive perimeter when he encountered several enemies at close range. He killed the enemy but was painfully injured when blown from his feet by a grenade. In spite of this injury, he assaulted and destroyed an enemy machinegun position that had pinned down 5 of his comrades beyond the defensive line. Upon learning his commander and artillery forward observer had been killed, he assumed command of the company. He adjusted artillery fire to within 20 meters of the position in a daring measure to repulse enemy assaults. When the smoke grenades used to mark the position were gone, he moved into a nearby clearing to designate the location to friendly aircraft. In spite of enemy fire he remained exposed until he was certain the position was spotted and then climbed into a tree and tied the identification panel to its highest branches. Then he moved among his men readjusting their position, encouraging the defenders and checking the wounded. As the hostile assaults slackened, he began clearing a helicopter landing site to evacuate the wounded. When explosives were needed to remove large trees, he crawled outside the relative safety of his perimeter to collect demolition material from abandoned rucksacks. Moving through a fusillade of fire he returned with the explosives that were vital to the clearing of the landing zone. Disregarding the pain of his injury and refusing medical evacuation 1st Sgt. McNerney remained with his unit until the next day when the new commander arrived. 1st Sgt. McNerney's outstanding heroism and leadership were inspirational to his comrades. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country.



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The Medal of Honor is given for a deed performed out of “personal bravery or self-sacrifice so conspicuous as to clearly distinguish the individual above his comrades and must have involved risk of life” (<http://www.medalof-honor.com>).

“Any one of these men would have done the same.”

1st Sgt. McNerney described his heroic actions to the audience in a soft-spoken voice ensuring that everyone understood the events that took place over 41 years ago as if they occurred within the past year.

1st Sgt. McNerney was in his mid-30s when he met the men of Company A, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division. He was responsible for their basic and infantry training prior to their deployment to the Republic of Vietnam. “By the second year of training, they were like family,” he said with a smile. Sergeant McNerney stated, “Any one of these men would have done the same.” He claims he is not a hero, which to many exemplified his humility.

Many of the Airmen listening to his experiences realized that it was a privilege to meet one of this nation’s military heroes. The experience will undoubtedly be remembered for a long time.

For additional information on 1st Sgt. McNerney or the Medal of Honor, go to: <http://www.cmohs.org/medal.htm>. ●

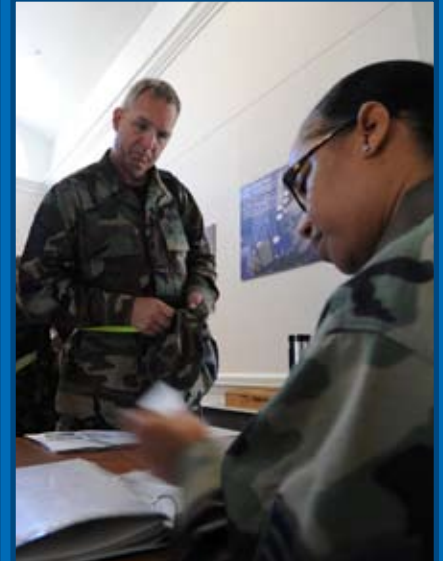


1st Sgt. David McNerney, Medal of Honor recipient receives a lithograph of the C-130 from Col. David McMinn, Commander of the 136 AW for his visit to the unit on October 26, 2008.

Around the Wing

Photos by Senior Master Sgt. Elizabeth Gilbert, Master Sgt. Michael Lachman,
Technical Sgt. Charles Hatton and other unit members

Members of the 136 AW during October-November performing their day-to-day duties and then some...
More photos can be found on our new public website: <http://www.136aw.af.mil> - Check it out!





Force Support Squadron

The new kid around the block

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Schofield

Photos by Technical Sgt. Charles Hatton

The members of two 136th Airlift Wing flights are spending their holiday season as part of a new and larger family – the 136th Force Support Squadron (FSS).

The 136th Mission Support Flight (MSF) and 136th Services Flight (SVF) merged during the October UTA as part of an Air Force wide drive to consolidate personnel and support based missions into one cohesive, and hopefully more efficient unit, said Lt. Col. Suzanne B. Lipcaman, the outgoing MSF commander and newly appointed 136 AW executive officer.

Maj. Allen Lambright, former SVF commander and the incoming commander of the merged flight, said customers of the new squadron will not see any direct changes to the services typically provided by the two old flights.

“People are still going to go to the same places for the same services,” Lambright assured.

The greatest adjustment required by the merger will be the integration of two groups of people, each with their own traditions and methods, continued Lambright. But that integration should result in increased efficiency

both within the borders of the 136 AW and throughout other deployment locations, he concluded.

Although the merger brings with it new opportunities for excellence, it is a bitter-sweet move for Lipcaman.

“I have been proud to serve as the MSF commander during the past three years,” she said, “and I am confident they will continue to be successful in all their future endeavors as part of the Force Support Squadron.” ●



136th Airlift Wing
Ft. Worth, TX

The veteran recruiter Lil' Jeter

By Staff Sgt. Ivyann N. Caraballo

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Elizabeth Gilbert



If you haven't noticed yet, our Recruiting Office has undergone some changes from merging under the 136th Airlift Wing after separating from the 136th Mission Support Flight to having new people in the section giving friendly smiles and caring personalities. However, there is one veteran we cannot forget who has been left unnoticed. He hides away working in his office as the senior member in Recruiting. This veteran, Tech. Sgt. "Christopher "David" Jeter or aka "Lil' Jeter," has been in Recruiting since July 2006.

Technical Sgt. Jeter came from the 136th Security Forces Squadron where he was a Combat Arms Instructor. He has been deployed to Bosnia

in 2001-2002 with the Squadron as well as Kuwait and Iraq from 2004-2005. In addition, he was a Texas Airman Leadership Seminar Instructor in 2006.

Sergeant Jeter, production recruiter, 136th Airlift Wing, describes why he decided to switch careers. "I have tremendous respect and love for the Air National Guard and what we do. So, I figured why not be someone who gets to choose who comes in this militia," as he smirks. He completed Recruiting School in Sept 2006.

The application process as Tech. Sgt. Jeter remembers was like applying for any other job whether it is Active Guard Reserve, AGR or civilian.

"The interview was pretty tough. But, the 136th Security Forces Squadron made me conduct a Board Interview for every rank I attained. Because of them, I felt ready for anything. HUA!!"

Since Sergeant Jeter has been in the Recruiting business for almost two years and well technically the veteran in the office, he admits it has been an interesting yet rewarding experience. "It has been one of the most beneficial jobs I have ever done. It has its up's and down's. But, I do not regret getting this job at all. I am looking forward to working with MSgt Bobby Sheppard and TSgt Tiffany Jackson. I think we will all make an awesome team." ●

By Master Sgt. Constance Mick

5k Pumpkin Run winning success for 136 AW



17-23

*Capt. Sandy Ramsey, 1st & Technical Sgt. Olympia Williamson, 2nd Female 24-34

*Technical Sgt. Jennifer Elmore 1st & Master Sgt. Marla Naylor, 2nd Female 35-40

*Master Sgt. Connie Mick, 1st Female 41-49

*Col Muriel Marshall, 2nd Female 50-59

*Master Sgt. Tony Cohns, 2nd Male 24-34

*Lt Jon Patterson, 1st & Maj. Jason Potts, 2nd Male 35-40

*Last but certainly not least Capt. Tyler Thompson took overall male!

To add motivation to the event, Wing leadership attended. Col. Conoley

and Lt. Col. Suzanne Lipcaman were at the finish line cheering members on, and it was inspiring to see them there some of the members.

Even the NAS JRB Skipper, Capt. Smyers was extremely impressed with the 136 AW team spirit, which goes to show you that the Wing is being recognized on base for its members' physical spirit and ability.

The next race for those interested will be on Dec 19, the Jingle Bell Run. Traditional guardsmen who are interested in running can stop by Master Sgt. Constance Mick's office during Sunday drill November 16, and fill out a form to participate. The cost is \$5 per person, and will cover the t-shirt and a goodie bag. ●

Approximately 20 members from the 136th Airlift Wing, participated in the 5k Pumpkin run held on Oct 31 at the NAS JRB Fitness Center.

The event was a great success with the 136 AW members rocking by taking home 10 out of the 24 trophies. The hardcore winners for this race were:

*Senior Airman Erica Borrego, 1st Female



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1-800-471-2496

www.goang.com

For more vacancies please
visit the Recruiting Office

Recruiter's Wish List Hot Jobs

ENLISTED

- 2A6X2 - Aerospace Ground Equipment**
- 2W0X1 - Munitions**
- JIWX1 - Weather**
- 3A0X1 - Information Management**
- 2A6XS - Aircraft Hydraulic Systems**
- 2R0X1 - Maintenance Data Systems**
- 2R1X1 - Aircraft Scheduler**
- 2A5X1J - Aircraft Maintenance**
- 2A6X6 - Electronic and Environment Systems**
- 2A6X4 - Aircraft Fuel Systems**
- 2A7X2 - Non Destructive Inspection**
- 2A5X3 - Avionics Guidance and Control**

OFFICERS

- 42G3 - Physician Assistant**
- 48R3 - Flight Surgeon**
- 42E3 - Optometrist**



**136th Airlift
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Nominate your employer for supporting your service



By Staff Sgt. Ivyann N. Caraballo
Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Elizabeth Gilbert



2009 Drill

Visit the WINGNET at wing-net.txcars.ang.af.mil for future drill schedules.

DISCIPLINARY

Don't be a statistic. Letters of Reprimand (LORs) and more serious actions are published in the Flyer; Letters of Counseling (LOCs) and lesser actions will not be included.

November:

One AWOL Letter - AMXS

One LOR for AWOL -AMXS

EDITORIAL

The Public Affairs - Multimedia team would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

If you have comments on what you are reading, please submit them to: PA.136aw@txcars.ang.af.mil

For more photos and stories please visit our new public website at <http://www.136AW.ang.af.mil>

Merry Christmas and a joyous
New year!

Boss Lift 2008



Approximately 40 employers and civic leaders were selected by 136 AW members to fly on a C-130H2 for the 2008 Boss Lift/Civic Leader Tour event to McDill AFB Nov. 13-14.

Nominations for the 2009 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is going on from now until January 19, 2009 and can be submitted through Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, ESGR online.

The award is the highest and most prestigious recognition given by the Department of Defense for employers who give outstanding support to their employees who serve in the Army/Air National Guard and Reserves.

ESGR is a program created by the DoD in 1972 to promote un-

derstanding and support between Guardsmen/Reservists and their employers. Because approximately 50% of the U.S. Military Forces are comprised of these components, civilian employers' encouragement plays an important role for mission success.

ESGR assists with education, awareness of laws and mediation to any resolve conflicts because of the employee's military commitment.

For more information about the award go to www.freedomaward.mil and to learn more about the ESGR program and other recognition awards go to www.esgr.mil ●



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Ft. Worth, TX Wing

NAS JRB Carswell, FT. Worth, TX

136TH Airlift Wing



**one TEAM
MESSAGE**

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Design by Technical Sgt. Charles Hatton



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